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## NEWS ITEMS

Professor Bruce Fink, of Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, desires to see fresh material in abundance of species of the Collemaceae collected in various parts of New York State. This group of lichens is greatly in need of careful modern taxonomic treatment and Professor Fink will devote much of his time to it during the next two years.

We learn through the daily press that the executive committee of the corporation of Brown University has decided to erect a greenhouse adjoining Maxcy Hall, as an extension of the botanical laboratory. The library has received a gift of 150 volumes of rare botanical books, valued at \$2,000, in memory of the late Edward P. Taft, class of '54.

The natural history library of the University of Illinois has been enriched by the addition of a set of *Flora Brasiliensis*, in forty folio volumes and costing \$1,500. The set is written in Latin and is said to be the fourth obtained by American libraries, others being at Harvard, Columbia and the Shaw Botanical Gardens.

Dr. J. N. Rose, who has recently been appointed research associate in the Department of Botanical Research of the Carnegie Institution, sailed for Europe on April 17, where he goes to investigate cactus collections in the various botanical gardens of England, France, Italy and Germany. He will be away about two months. His European address will be: Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, London, England.

Dr. N. L. Britton, of the New York Botanical Garden, has returned from explorations in eastern Cuba, with more than 2,300 specimens, including many cacti and cycads.